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UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME
BACKGROUND GUIDE 2013

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Message from the Executive Staff Regarding Position Papers for the 2013 NMUN•DC Conference

At the 2013 NMUN•DC Conference, each delegation submits one position paper for each committee assignment. Delegates should be aware that their role in each committee impacts the way a position paper should be written. While most delegates will serve as representatives of Member States, some may also serve as observers or NGOs. To understand these fine differences, please refer to the [Delegate Preparation Guide](#).

Position papers should provide a concise review of each delegation's policy regarding the topic areas under discussion and establish precise policies and recommendations in regard to the topics before the committee. International and regional conventions, treaties, declarations, resolutions, and programs of action of relevance to the policy of your State should be identified and addressed. Making recommendations for action by your committee should also be considered. Position papers also serve as a blueprint for individual delegates to remember their country's position throughout the course of the Conference. NGO position papers should be constructed in the same fashion as position papers of countries. Each topic should be addressed briefly in a succinct policy statement representing the relevant views of your assigned NGO. You should also include recommendations for action to be taken by your committee. It will be judged using the same criteria as all country position papers, and is held to the same standard of timeliness.

Please be forewarned, delegates must turn in material that is entirely original. NMUN/NCCA will not tolerate the occurrence of plagiarism. In this regard, the NMUN Secretariat would like to take this opportunity to remind delegates that although United Nations documentation is considered within the public domain, the Conference does not allow the verbatim re-creation of these documents. This plagiarism policy also extends to the written work of the Secretariat contained within the Committee Background Guides. Violation of this policy will be immediately reported to faculty advisors and may result in dismissal from Conference participation. Delegates should report any incidents of plagiarism to the Secretariat.

Delegation's position papers can be awarded as recognition of outstanding pre-Conference preparation. In order to be considered for a Position Paper Award, delegations must have met the formal requirements listed below. Please refer to the sample position paper below this message for a visual example of what your work should look like at its completion. All papers must be typed and formatted in the same manner as this example. The following format specifications are required for all papers:

- Length must not exceed two single-sided pages
- Margins must be set at 1 inch or 2.54 centimeters for the whole paper
- Font must be Times New Roman sized between 10 pt. and 12 pt.
- Country/NGO name, school name, and committee name must be clearly labeled on the first page
- Agenda topics must be clearly labeled in separate sections
- National symbols (headers, flags, etc.) are deemed inappropriate for NMUN position papers

To be considered for awards, position papers need to be submitted by email in .pdf or .doc formats by 1 October 2013. As proof of submission, include yourself as an email recipient. Please use the committee name, your assignment, and delegation/school name in both the email subject line and in the filename (example: GA1st_Cuba_Mars College).

1. Send one complete set of all position papers for each of your country/NGO assignments to the Secretary-General at secgen.dc@nmun.org.

2. Send a copy of your position paper for each assigned committee to the corresponding committee email address listed below. Please note, the email addresses will be active on 1 August, 2013.

Committee	Email Address (active on 1 August)
General Assembly First Committee	ga1.dc@nmun.org
General Assembly Second Committee	ga2.dc@nmun.org
International Conference on Population and Development Beyond 2014	icpd.dc@nmun.org
Food and Agriculture Organization Council	fao.dc@nmun.org
United Nations Environment Programme	unep.dc@nmun.org
Security Council	sc.dc@nmun.org

Once the formal requirements outlined above are met, Conference staff use the following criteria to evaluate Position Papers:

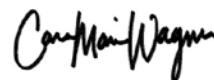
- Overall quality of writing, proper style, grammar, etc.
- Citation of relevant resolutions/documents
- General consistency with bloc/geopolitical constraints
- Consistency with the constraints of the United Nations
- Analysis of issues, rather than reiteration of the Committee Background Guide
- Outline of official policy aims within the committee's mandate

Should you have any questions please feel free to contact the Conference staff.

Sincerely,



Kristina Getty
Secretary-General, NMUN•DC 2013



Cara Wagner
Director-General, NMUN•DC 2013

Sample Position Paper

The following position paper is designed to be a sample of the standard format that an NMUN position paper should follow. Papers may be no longer than two single-sided pages. Only the first two pages of any submissions will be considered for awards.

Delegation from
Canada

Represented by
University of Jupiter

Position Paper for the General Assembly Plenary

The topics before the General Assembly Plenary are: Breaking the Link between Diamonds and Armed Conflict; the Promotion of Alternative Sources of Energy; and the Implementation of the 2001-2010 International Decade to Roll Back Malaria in Developing Countries, Particularly in Africa. Canada is dedicated to collaborative multilateral approaches to ensuring protection and promotion of human security and advancement of sustainable development.

I. Breaking the Link between Diamonds and Armed Conflict

Canada endorses the Kimberley Process in promoting accountability, transparency, and effective governmental regulation of trade in rough diamonds. Canada believes the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme (KPCS) is an essential international regulatory mechanism and encourages all Member States to contribute to market accountability by seeking membership, participation, and compliance with its mandate. Canada urges Member States to follow the recommendations of the 2007 Kimberley Process Communiqué to strengthen government oversight of rough diamond trading and manufacturing by developing domestic legal frameworks similar to the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative. Canada further calls upon participating states to act in accordance with the KPCS's comprehensive and credible systems of peer review to monitor the continued implementation of the Kimberley Process and ensure full transparency and self-examination of domestic diamond industries. The delegation of Canada draws attention to our domestic programs for diamond regulation including Implementing the Export and Import of Rough Diamonds Act and urges Member States to consider these programs in developing the type of domestic regulatory frameworks called for in General Assembly resolution 55/56. Canada recognizes the crucial role of non-governmental organizations (NGOs) in the review of rough diamond control measures developed through the Kimberley Process and encourages states to include NGOs, such as Global Witness and Partnership Africa Canada, in the review processes called for in General Assembly resolution 58/290. Canada urges Member States to act in accordance with General Assembly resolution 60/182 to optimize the beneficial development impact of artisanal and alluvial diamond miners by establishing a coordinating mechanism for financial and technical assistance through the Working Group of the Kimberley Process of Artisanal Alluvial Producers. Canada calls upon states and NGOs to provide basic educational material regarding diamond valuation and market prices for artisanal diggers, as recommended by the Diamond Development Initiative. Canada will continue to adhere to the 2007 Brussels Declaration on Internal Controls of Participants and is dedicated to ensuring accountability, transparency, and effective regulation of the rough diamond trade through the utilization of voluntary peer review systems and the promotion of increased measures of internal control within all diamond producing states.

II. The Promotion of Alternative Sources of Energy

Canada is dedicated to integrating alternative energy sources into climate change frameworks by diversifying the energy market while improving competitiveness in a sustainable economy, as exemplified through the Canadian Turning Corners Report and Project Green climate strategies. Canada views the international commitment to the promotion of alternative sources of energy called for in the Kyoto Protocol and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) as a catalyst to sustainable development and emission reduction. Canada fulfills its obligations under Article 4 of the UNFCCC by continuing to provide development assistance through the Climate Change Development Fund and calls upon Member States to commit substantial financial and technical investment toward the transfer of sustainable energy technologies and clean energy mechanisms to developing States. Canada emphasizes the need for Member States to follow the recommendations of the 2005 Beijing International Renewable Energy Conference to strengthen domestic policy frameworks to promote clean energy

technologies. Canada views dissemination of technology information called for in the 2007 Group of Eight Declaration on Growth and Responsibility in the World Economy as a vital step in energy diversification from conventional energy generation. Canada calls upon Member States to integrate clean electricity from renewable sources into their domestic energy sector by employing investment campaigns similar to the Canadian \$1.48 billion initiative ecoENERGY for Renewable Power. Canada encourages states to develop domestic policies of energy efficiency, utilizing regulatory and financing frameworks to accelerate the deployment of clean low-emitting technologies and calls upon Member States to provide knowledge-based advisory services for expanding access to energy in order to fulfill their commitments to Goal 1 of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). Canada urges states to address the concerns of the 2007 Human Development Report by promoting tax incentives, similar to the Capital Cost Allowances and Canadian Renewable and Conservation Expenses, to encourage private sector development of energy conservation and renewable energy projects. As a member of the Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Partnership, Canada is committed to accelerating the development of renewable energy projects, information sharing mechanisms, and energy efficient systems through the voluntary carbon offset system. We are dedicated to leading international efforts toward the development and sharing of best practices on clean energy technologies and highlight our release of the Renewable Energy Technologies Screen software for public and private stakeholders developing projects in energy efficiency, cogeneration, and renewable energy. Canada believes the integration of clean energy into state-specific strategies called for in the General Assembly Second Committee's report to the General Assembly Plenary on Sustainable development: promotion of new and renewable sources of energy (A/62/419/Add.9) will strengthen energy diversification, promote the use of cogeneration, and achieve a synergy between promoting alternative energy while allowing for competitiveness in a sustainable economy.

III. Implementation of the 2001-2010 International Decade to Roll Back Malaria in Developing Countries, Particularly in Africa

Canada views the full implementation of the treatment and prevention targets of the 2001-2010 International Decade to Roll Back Malaria in Developing Countries, Especially in Africa, as essential to eradicating malaria and assisting African states to achieve Target 8 of Goal 6 of the MDGs by 2015. Canada recommends Member States to cooperate with the World Health Organization to ensure transparency in the collection of statistical information for Indicators 21 and 22 of the MDGs. Canada reaffirms the targets of the Abuja Declaration and Plan of Action stressing regional cooperation in the implementation, monitoring, and management of malaria prevention and treatment initiatives in Africa. To fully implement General Assembly resolution 61/228, Canada believes developed states must balance trade and intellectual property obligations with the humanitarian objective of the Doha Declaration on the TRIPS Agreement and Public Health. We continue to implement Paragraph 6 of the Doha Declaration on the TRIPS Agreement and Public Health into our compulsory licensing framework through the Jean Chrétien Pledge to Africa Act. Canada urges Member States to support compulsory licensing for essential generic medication by including anti-malarial vaccines and initiating domestic provisions to permit export-only compulsory licenses to domestic pharmaceutical manufacturers, similar to Canada's Access to Medicines Regime. Canada calls upon Member States to establish advanced market commitments on the distribution of pneumococcal vaccines to developing States in cooperation with PATH and the Malaria Vaccine Initiative. Canada emphasizes the need for greater membership in the Roll Back Malaria initiative to strengthen malaria control planning, funding, implementation, and evaluation by promoting increased investment in healthcare systems and greater incorporation of malaria control into all relevant multi-sector activities. Canada continues to implement the Canadian International Development Agency's (CIDA) New Agenda for Action on Health to reduce malaria infection rates among marginalized populations in Africa, increase routine immunizations rates, and reduce infection rates of other neglected infections. Canada will achieve the goal of doubling aid to Africa by 2008-2009 by providing assistance to the Global Fund to Fight Aids, Tuberculosis, and Malaria. We urge Member States to increase donations to intergovernmental organizations and NGOs that support malaria programming in Africa, exemplified by CIDA's contribution of \$26 million to the Canadian Red Cross. We continue our efforts to provide accessible and affordable vector control methods to African States through the Red Cross' Malaria Bed Net Campaign and the African Medical Research Foundation Canada by supplying insecticide-treated mosquito nets and Participatory Malaria Prevention and Treatment tool kits.

Official Welcome

On behalf of the committee staff of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), we welcome you to the 2013 National Model United Nations Washington D.C. (NMUN•DC) Conference. This year your Director is Patrick Parsons and your Assistant Director is Doug Arseneault. Patrick Parsons has a BA in International Studies and Animal and Nutritional Sciences and is currently pursuing a Juris Doctor from the American University Washington College of Law. Doug Arseneault has a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from Chapman University and currently runs the Government Affairs department of a regional business association in Southern California.

The topics for the UNEP highlight important challenges that the world faces regarding climate change, energy production, and protection of the earth's biodiversity. The UNEP is the key body of the United Nations for environmental issues, and we hope that in representing your Member State, you will gain both a greater knowledge of these key environmental issues and the work of the United Nations system in addressing them.

Over the past few months, the staff of NMUN•DC have committed themselves to writing the contents of this background guide to assist you in researching and preparing for debate at the conference. We wish you good luck in your preparation for the conference and look forward to meeting you in Washington, D.C. this fall.

History of the United Nations Environment Programme

The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) was established in 1972 by the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment in Stockholm, Sweden, through the Stockholm Action Plan. This conference was in response to the growing pressure from Member States and international environmental groups for the United Nations (UN) to take action on environmental issues, despite intense international focus at the time on the Cold War. The UNEP was originally tasked to advocate, educate, and facilitate environmental programs alongside development, such as the reduction of air and water pollution. However, with shifting policies and priorities such as the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), the UNEP's mandate to promote and lead programs on environmental issues has grown to encompass six areas of concern: climate change, disasters and conflicts, environmental governance, ecosystem management, harmful substances and hazardous waste, and resource efficiency. Of these, climate change has been on the UNEP's agenda since 1979 when the First World Climate Conference was held. The UNEP was a leader in the formation of the *United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change* in 1992 and adoption of subsequent documents, including the Kyoto Protocol. Additionally, the UNEP works cooperatively with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN and the United Nations Development Programme on the UN collaborative initiative on Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and forest Degradation (UN-REDD), which launched in 2008.

UN General Assembly (GA) Resolution 2997 established the UNEP's Governing Council, which is headed by an Executive Director. However, under GA Resolution 67/213, the 54-Member State committee is currently undergoing a change in governance structure to strengthen the UNEP and to meet ever-growing international environmental challenges. In 2013, the Governing Council will begin its transition into the United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA), which will meet biannually, culminate with high-level meetings, and have universal membership as declared in GA Resolution 67/251. The Governing Council held its final meeting in February 2013, in which the guidelines for the formation of the Secretariat of Governing Bodies (SGB) were established. The SGB, when it takes over in 2014, will support the governing bodies of the UNEA, the Committee of Permanent Representatives, and the Scientific Advisory Groups, which will remain unchanged during the transition. This new system will allow for efficient communication between governments of Member States and the six divisions of the UNEP, including the Scientific Advisory Groups. It will also handle communications from Permanent Missions and Ministries of the UNEP. The current Executive Director, Achim Steiner, Deputy Executive Director, Amina Mohamed, and the Governing Council are to maintain their positions to oversee the transition until 2014. This organizational transition and strengthening reflects the growing importance of the role of the UNEP in confronting the environmental issues that impact us all.

In 2012, the UNEP addressed several ongoing projects and initiatives, reflective of the six areas under the purview of the UNEP. Some notable progress reports contained within the 2012 annual report include: *CITES: At the Intersection of Trade, Environment and Development*; *the Year of Sustainable Energy for All (SEFA)*; and *Cleaning*

Up to Help the Climate. *CITES* discusses the 2013 outreach initiative between the UNEP and the *Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES)*, specifically concerning the illicit trade of animal parts, such as elephant tusks and rhino horns, and strengthening initiatives to protect endangered wildlife. *SEFA* highlights the UNEP's involvement throughout 2012. Additionally, the UNEP reported on two sustainable energy initiatives taking part in Africa: the African Rift Geothermal Development Facility and the Cogeneration for Africa project. Lastly, *Cleaning Up to Help the Climate* saw the formation of the Climate and Clean Air Coalition (CCAC) to Reduce Short-Lived Climate Pollutants, which was developed by the UNEP and six other Member States' governments. The CCAC's focus will be to work with the UNEP's Atmospheric Brown Cloud Programme to find efficient methods of eliminating black carbon emissions.

In addition to the progress reports, the UNEP recently announced its leadership role as the Secretariat of the 10 Year Framework of Programmes for Sustainable Consumption and Production, which follows the guidelines of the World Summit on Sustainable Development. The 10 Year Framework of Programmes for Sustainable Consumption and Production was created to change the patterns of production and consumption of goods that are detrimental to sustainable development and to support regional and national efforts to promote this change, such as the reduction of pollution through increased recycling. As the Secretariat, the UNEP will promote initiatives that endeavor to strike a balance between the challenges of economic development and continued efforts to protect the needs of ecosystems. Furthermore, the UNEP will oversee the Trust Fund to Support Sustainable Consumption and Production. The UNEP will begin taking on this leadership role beginning in 2014 after the UNEA is established and functioning. At the present time, and in the immediate future, the role of the UNEP remains crucial as it continues to bridge gaps between UN agencies and Member States in addressing climate change and climate change mitigation, sustainable development, ecosystem management, and several other environmental issues.

I. Combating the Illicit Trade of Animals and Animal Products

- How can existing international frameworks be strengthened to better combat the illicit trade of animals and animal products?
- What measures can be taken to reduce the demand for threatened or endangered species and products?
- What actions can countries take to better protect endangered species populations within their borders? How can countries cooperate to protect trans-boundary populations and migratory species?

In April 2013, the United Nations Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice formally recognized the illicit animal trade as a “serious crime.” Far from symbolic, Conservation International’s Peter Paul van Dijk characterizes the designation as recognition that the illegal wildlife trade is not “a minor type of crime affecting specific species” but is “symptomatic of underlying problems of natural resource security, governance and transparency, and ineffective international actions.” While it is difficult to quantify, the illicit animal trade likely amounts to \$5-10 billion a year, although some estimates place it as high as \$20 billion annually. Even when using lower estimates, the illicit animal trade is the fourth largest international criminal enterprise behind the drug trade, human trafficking, and the illegal arms trade.

Economics is the motivating factor for individuals and organizations involved in the illicit trade of animals and animal products, but more narrowly, the underlying issue is demand side economics. Whether for food, clothing, medicine, religious purposes, sporting, or personal collections, demand for rare and endangered animals and products creates a lucrative black market. To date, international efforts to combat this illicit trade have focused on limiting the supply of animals and products, but as demand continues to grow, the value of animals and products only increases, creating greater motivation for poachers, criminal organizations, and other individuals to be involved in the market. Against this backdrop of greater organized criminal involvement, increased demand, and unprecedented poaching, modifications to existing actions and new initiatives must address the changing motivations behind the illicit trade of animals and animal products.

The cornerstone of current international efforts to combat the illicit trade is the *Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES)*. The *Convention* regulates the trade of animals and plants by dividing each species into a category (called an Appendix) based on the species’ conservation status. Appendix I includes endangered species and prohibits their trade apart from exceptional, non-commercial purposes including scientific research. Appendix II species could become threatened unless trade is closely regulated or are “look alike”

species similar to protected endangered species. Provided that trade in these species is not detrimental to the wild population, trade permits for Appendix II species are granted. Appendix III species are ones that a State Party regulates the trade of and needs the cooperation of the international community to ensure the species is not exploited. Ecuador has extensively used Appendix III to list Galapagos Island species for heightened protection. Based on those protections, in June 2013, Ecuadorian authorities arrested seven foreign tourists attempting to smuggle 1,313 processed sea cucumbers (an Appendix III species) out of the country.

Now celebrating its 40th anniversary, the effectiveness of the *CITES* in combating the illicit trade of animals and animal products remains debated. Although there is broad participation in the *Convention* (178 parties), a 2002 study found that 50% of parties lacked one or more of the major requirements of parties: designation of management and scientific authorities, laws prohibiting trade in violation of the *CITES*, penalties for such violations, and laws providing for the confiscation of specimens. Outside of the issue of a party's competency and adherence to the *Convention*, the process of listing species is often a political, rather than scientific, procedure. Listing, deleting, or changing the Appendix of a species can be proposed by any State Party at a Conference of Parties (COP) held every three years and requires the support of two-thirds of the States Parties. At the 16th COP, held March 3-14, 2013 in Bangkok, Thailand, 55 new species were added to Appendix I and II, including hammerhead sharks and manta rays. Many threatened species are not listed under Appendix I, notably the polar bear, for political rather than scientific reasons. In 2013, the United States proposed moving the polar bear from Appendix II to Appendix I. With prominent objections from Canada, Norway, and Greenland, the vote failed by 38 votes in favor, 42 against, and 46 abstentions. Additionally, some species are "split listed." The African Elephant is an Appendix I species, but populations in Botswana, Namibia, South Africa, and Zimbabwe are listed in Appendix II. Opponents of this process argue that it allows for African Elephants from Appendix I populations to be legally traded under the guise of originating from the Appendix II states. Proponents, however, counter that listing the entire species in Appendix I would penalize states that effectively manage their populations. In a broader context, critics of the *CITES* argue that the process should be a "positive listing" process, meaning that it would be illegal to trade in a species unless it is listed, rather than under the current "negative listing," which is the reverse: it is legal to trade in species unless they are listed.

To reduce the illicit animal trade, the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) primarily coordinates and supports the work of various international bodies. In 1979, the UNEP signed a memorandum of understanding with the *CITES* to serve as the secretariat of the *Convention* and coordinate on other initiatives. In 2009, the UNEP created focal points for biodiversity-related agreements in four of its regional offices. These focal points provide technical advice and capacity-building to aid countries in implanting the provisions of the *CITES* and other biodiversity agreements on regional and national levels. The focal point at the Regional Office for Western Asia was key in facilitating the accession of Bahrain and Lebanon to the *CITES*. More specifically, the UNEP manages a number of species-related programs including the Great Apes Survival Partnership, the Monitoring the Illegal Killing of Elephants (MIKE) program, and the Elephant Trade Information System (ETIS). MIKE and ETIS exist as "sister" programs, with MIKE monitoring the illegal killing of elephants in 43 African and Asian states and ETIS analyzing the illegal ivory trade from the illegal killing to destination markets.

In 2011, the UNEP Governing Council approved the creation of the African Elephant Fund. The Fund supports implementation of the African Elephant Action Plan that was adopted by the eight African Elephant range states in 2010. As of 2013, the Fund contained \$628,723 in donations from France, Germany, the Netherlands, the United Kingdom, South Africa, and China. In addition to recent involvement with the Fund, the UNEP provides technical and scientific support for the *CITES* through the UNEP's World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP-WCMC). The UNEP-WCMC's primary function is maintaining trade data on the *CITES*-listed species. To date, this online resource contains over 12 million trade records – in 2012 alone, approximately 931,200 trade records were entered into the database. The UNEP-WCMC is used by national governments, intergovernmental organizations, and non-governmental organizations to track trends and trade patterns to determine the effectiveness of the *CITES'* implementation. Additionally, parties to the *Convention* can use this data to decide whether trade patterns dictate the listing, downlisting, or deletion of species from an appendix.

Recognizing the criticisms of the *CITES* and that the current trade restrictions created under the *CITES* have not significantly reduced the illicit animal trade, the UNEP has moved beyond viewing the issue strictly as a matter of environmental conservation. As previously stated, the broadest criticism of current international efforts is that actions only seek to reduce supply in the illicit trade of animals and animal products, and that a restricted supply

with continued demand only drives prices higher creating a greater incentive for the illicit trade. Against this backdrop, the UNEP has engaged in a number of initiatives to educate consumers on the environmental and ecological cost of these products. In February 2013, the UNEP signed a cooperative agreement with Shanghai, China, to display a series of photographs in the subway system that highlight the illegal wildlife trade. Additionally, the film “Elephant in the Room” will be displayed in the main city square. The film traces an ornament made from illegally sourced ivory and ends with the tagline “when we stop buying, they stop dying”. The UNEP is further addressing the issue of Asian demand for illegal wildlife products by partnering with the UNEP Goodwill Ambassador Li Bingbing, a noted Chinese actress with over 20 million followers on Chinese social media. Joint efforts between the UNEP, Bingbing, and the non-governmental organization Save the Elephants are currently using Bingbing’s social media and public presence to change the “appetite for ivory...as it was [changed] in the U.S., Europe, and Japan” by educating consumers.

Similarly, through the World Congress on Justice, Governance, and Law for Environmental Sustainability, the UNEP has greatly expanded the discussion of the illicit animal trade beyond a purely environmental discussion. Held in June 2012, the UNEP gathered over 250 of the world’s chief justices, attorneys-general, auditors-general, and representatives from organizations including the World Bank, the *CITES*, and the International Criminal Police Organization to strengthen the role of environmental law in combating the illicit animal trade and supporting the broader goal of environmental sustainability. The Congress called on the UNEP to lead the creation of an international institution to develop and implement environmental law and jurisprudence. Following that call, the UNEP established the International Advisory Council for the Advancement of Justice, Governance, and Law for Environmental Sustainability in December 2012. The Council will build on the now-recognized involvement of organized crime in the illicit trade to overcome legal barriers to prosecution, punishment, and deterrence of parties involved in the trade.

The UNEP has long recognized the need to preserve biological diversity for the health of the environment. The World Charter for Nature codified this position in affirming “[t]he genetic viability on the earth shall not be compromised.” Efforts to combat the illicit animal trade, and therefore uphold the UNEP’s broader goal of protecting biodiversity, have long focused on monitoring and controlling the physical trade of animals and animal products from specific species. While this approach has garnered some level of success, it alone is not enough to combat the current, evolving dynamics of the trade. Increased economic development throughout the world has led to an unparalleled demand for such animal products. As the value of some animal products used in traditional medicine increases (some more valuable than gold or platinum), organized criminal organizations have begun participating in the trade. Instead of isolated poaching in the past, the international community must now address the new reality of the illicit animal trade: significantly evidenced by the 3,000% increase in rhino poaching since 2007 and multiple incidents where hundreds of elephants have been massacred at one time. At this crossroads, the UNEP has recognized that new approaches must be examined in order to strengthen existing approaches and uphold the organization’s mandate.

II. Achieving Sustainable Energy for All

- What steps should the United Nations Environment Programme take to further polices on sustainable energy in order to reach the 2030 goal date for achieving Sustainable Energy for All?
- How should the United Nations Environment Programme monitor progress toward the three goals of the Sustainable Energy for All initiative?
- What are the obstacles facing Member States in meeting the three goals? What policy actions or initiatives should the United Nations Environment Programme enact to overcome these obstacles?

According to research conducted by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), 1.3 billion people, or one in five people globally, lack electricity to light their homes or conduct business. Twice that number, nearly 40% of the world's population, rely on wood, coal, charcoal, or animal waste to cook their food – often breathing in toxic smoke that causes lung disease and kills nearly 2 million people a year, most of them women and children. Yet, there are alternative energy sources that can be utilized, like wind, solar, and geothermal, that are renewable and cleaner. These sources are considered "sustainable energy" sources because of their abundance and their limited-to-zero impact on global climate. Sustainable energy sources are key for countries as they develop energy infrastructure and expand it into rural areas. Sustainable energy sources are also crucial to mitigating global climate change and

adapting to the changes brought about by it. Many United Nations (UN) Member States are at crucial moments for adopting sustainable energy practices within their nascent development infrastructures. A sustainable energy approach would therefore create long-lasting infrastructure, decrease dependence on fossil fuel, and sustain more development and growing populations. Further, it is easier and more cost effective to establish an energy system based on sustainable sources from the beginning than it is to replace infrastructure and shift economies towards sustainable energy sources. Once sustainable energy is accessible, Member States will have an easier time meeting targets regarding education, child mortality, and maternal health.

UN General Assembly (GA) Resolution 56/151 adopted the principles established by the World Summit on Sustainable Development (also known as the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation), the *Rio Declaration on Environment and Development*, and Agenda 21. Moreover, GA Resolution 56/151 supports the Millennium Development Goal (MDG) Target 7A: integrate the principles of sustainable development into country policies and programs and reverse the loss of environmental resources. Seeing the need to establish a prolific initiative for sustainable energy, Resolution 56/151 declared 2012 the International Year of Sustainable Energy for All (SEFA). Under the guidelines of SEFA, “sustainable energy” is defined as being developed from environmentally sound sources with little environmental impact and should be accessible to as many individuals as possible. SEFA has three main goals that Member States are committed to achieve by the 2030 target date. These are: 1) to ensure universal access to modern energy services such as biomass converters and wind turbines, 2) to double the global rate of improvement in energy efficiency, and 3) to double the share of renewable energy in the global energy mix. Sustainable energy projects launched and promoted under SEFA also call for the inclusion of women and for work to provide poverty alleviating opportunities, as stated by the UN Secretary-General. Presently, over 50 Member States have committed to achieving these goals and are currently integrating them with ongoing projects and initiatives created in response to the MDGs. Additionally, the SEFA framework allows for all current and future sustainable energy projects conducted by committed Member States to be seen as progress towards these goals.

Numerous other bodies and initiatives within the UN also support SEFA. To begin with, GA Resolution 56/151 calls on the office of the UN Secretary-General, with assistance from the Economic and Social Council, to establish goals and deadlines for Member States to achieve an infrastructure based on sustainable energy. In 2012, the UNEP and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) were tasked with coordinating events and initiatives to promote sustainable energy and the goals of SEFA while also developing a monitoring process for Member States’ progress. To track the progress of the committed Member States, the formation of a baseline and monitoring system has been tasked to numerous organizations including: the UNEP, World Bank, the Energy Sector Management Assistance Program, the International Energy Agency, the UNDP, and the World Health Organization, which together make up the SEFA Steering Group on Global Tracking. A report from the UNEP and Renewable Energy Policy Network for the 21st Century states that the baseline will utilize statistical data that reflects renewable energy sources already incorporated in the global energy mix from each of the committed Member States. The report established 2010 as the baseline date to track progress toward the goals by committed Member States. The information that will be monitored includes tracking the speed at which committed Member States achieve the goals and the global and regional impact of the sustainable energy sources connected to a national or regional grid. In the end, this proposed baseline and tracking system could provide a greater indication of global trends in renewable energy and highlight regions with high potential for investment. An example of such a system is the World Energy Model used by the International Energy Agency. This system, while primarily acting as a simulation model, has been referred to as a guideline for developing and sustaining a monitoring system for SEFA.

However, the Steering Group’s initial 2012 report also highlighted the inherent flaws in utilizing such a system. A global monitoring system lacks the essential details needed to assess the quality or quantity of the energy source as well as the quality and affordability of appliances needed to utilize the energy. The proposed SEFA system suggests tracking investments which could be misleading when evaluating the data on a global scale because within a global or regional monitoring system and baseline there are key differences. Member States would be measured solely on total output and the system would not monitor the urban to rural ratio of sustainable energy disbursement. Meanwhile, a global baseline would require utilizing information about each Member State and synthesizing the data into one collective assessment, which would take time and resources that could be better used towards launching energy projects. Moreover, utilizing a global baseline starting in 2010 will cause a data skew because several Member States’ initiatives towards these goals did not begin until the introduction of the SEFA in 2012. Lastly, the global baseline and tracking system would include data from every Member State and aim to highlight tracked progress. This may discourage Member States with already established energy sources and renewable

energy programs from committing to the goals because the data from these countries would show zero progress made against the SEFA goals whereas Member States with minimal pre-existing infrastructures could show large improvements, thus indicating inaccurate information regarding true progress.

In spite of these flaws, there are benefits of using a global monitoring system. Committed Member States, regional blocs, UN agencies, and private sector investors can clearly visualize the interplay of the three goals. Member States can easily determine which goal is providing the most residual benefits towards the other two. Investing regional blocs and private investors can thus chart the progress and projected progress to determine where to make future investments or to determine if prior investments need additional assistance. A global monitoring system would also be able to track whether sustainable energy initiatives have a high or low impact and the rate of speed at which sustainable energy programs are being developed. Having such data, particularly of high quality, heavily matters in the pursuit of calculating levels of international energy usage. Currently, a sample of the global monitoring system and its mechanics has been introduced into the SEFA framework, but the monitoring system is not active.

Lack of a global monitoring system, however, is not the only impediment towards achieving sustainable energy for all. There are many physical obstacles that each Member State has to overcome when implementing and developing sustainable energy infrastructure. Furthermore, several Member States have domestic social hurdles, particularly pertaining to gender and ethnicity, to overcome while implementing a sustainable energy infrastructure. Such challenges are exemplified in the case of Bangladesh, which has a dense population and high poverty rate. The UNEP, the UNDP Environment and Energy Group, the Small Grants Programme, and the UN Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation Programme worked in Bangladesh to develop sustainable energy for the flood-prone districts of northwest Bangladesh. Traditional methods of building and transporting energy had been fruitless because of the constant flooding and the increased number of hurricanes in the region as a result of climate change. Thus, Dr. Mohammed Rezwana began utilizing solar panels and lanterns on manually powered boats and retrofitted canoes that would float amongst the various coastal villages. Each boat housed crucial elements needed for the villages, like schools, medical facilities, and communication devices. Additional boats were added to include floating libraries for the schools and gardens so the heavily agrarian villages could learn and practice sustainable farming methods. These achievements would not register as progress towards the SEFA goals, yet it has made a significant impact by adapting to Bangladesh's unique needs. Many Member States need to overcome similar situations to achieve a sustainable energy infrastructure. In this regard, the limited scope of the SEFA goals can be questioned and the role of the UNEP identified.

Although tasked with assisting in the development of a monitoring system for the SEFA, the UNEP's role is much larger in the promotion of sustainable energy projects. The UNEP has to find a way to measure each of the SEFA goals independently and collectively, while ensuring that the spirit of the SEFA goals is maintained within each committed Member State. While working on the monitoring system, the UNEP, through its partnerships, must address how to overcome physical obstacles and social hurdles so the committed Member States are able to expand sustainable energy infrastructures into remote regions of their countries. Also, through its mandate, the UNEP is in a unique position to develop and coordinate sustainable energy projects, thus bridging gaps among UN agencies, private sectors, and non-governmental organizations. The UNEP has been working within the UN system to promote sustainable energy projects, however, considering the SEFA goals and 2030 target date, the UNEP still needs to become more active in bridging gaps between Member States and UN agencies to address the larger issues of climate change mitigation.

III. Improving Partnerships to Address Short-lived Climate Pollutants

- How can local level successes in reducing short-lived climate pollutants be better identified and translated into national and global actions?
- How can the Climate and Clean Air Coalition to Reduce Short Lived Climate Pollutants be strengthened to better address short-lived climate pollutants? As a fledgling coalition, how can the Climate and Clean Air Coalition increase its membership and stakeholders?
- Can existing international frameworks be used to address short-lived climate pollutants and how can efforts to reduce short-lived climate pollutants and carbon dioxide better complement each other?

Short-lived climate pollutants (SLCPs) are chemical compounds that have a relatively short lifespan in the atmosphere, from days up to decades, and cause a warming effect on the climate. Methane, black carbon, and tropospheric ozone are the primary SLCPs, and, behind carbon dioxide (CO₂), they are the largest source of human impact on the greenhouse effect. Because of their shorter duration in the atmosphere than other greenhouse gases – CO₂ persists for approximately 125 years – global action to mitigate SLCP emissions has a rapid effect on reducing greenhouse gas concentrations. If CO₂ emissions ceased today, CO₂ would continue to cause warming for over a century, but if SLCP emissions ceased, the warming effects would weaken in a matter of weeks and cease completely in a period of decades. Action to reduce SLCP emissions is urgent because while they dissipate quicker, the warming effect of SLCPs is much stronger than CO₂. Of the primary SLCPs, methane is approximately 25 times stronger than CO₂, black carbon is 460-1500 times stronger, and tropospheric ozone is 918-1022 times stronger. In addition to the three primary SLCPs, hydrofluorocarbon (HFC) emissions, which come largely from refrigeration and air conditioning, are projected to dramatically increase in the future. Because HFC molecules have 124-14,800 times greater impact on global warming than CO₂, the discussion of SLCPs mitigation should consider a discussion of the increasing danger of HFCs. In order to properly develop well-balanced solutions to the SLCP issue, combining technology, science, politics, and economics, it is important to understand the science behind these chemical compounds.

To better address international mitigation of these sources, it is important to understand the role of each source in climate change and how each source is produced. The first source, methane, has a lifespan of 12 years and over 60% of methane emissions are caused by human activities. Of those anthropogenic emissions, the primary sources are oil and natural gas production, agriculture (rice cultivation, manure management, and biotic production by cattle and other livestock), landfills, wastewater treatment, and coal mining. A 2011 report by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) estimated that global methane emissions will increase 25% over 2005 levels by 2030, largely due to increased natural gas production and increased municipal and agricultural waste emissions. The second source, black carbon, is generated by the incomplete combustion of fossil fuels and biomass. A wide range of human activities cause this incomplete combustion including diesel engines, residential cooking, coal-fired power generation, and the burning of forests and savannahs. Although black carbon only persists in the atmosphere for a few days or weeks, in addition to its significant global warming potential, black carbon deposited on ice and snow increases melting by decreasing reflectivity and altering precipitation patterns when deposited in clouds. Beyond its role in global warming, black carbon is the primary component of particulate air pollution that is the predominant environmental cause of 3.1 million premature deaths globally each year. The UNEP predictions estimate that black carbon emissions will remain stable through 2030 as growth in the developing world is offset by reductions in North America and Europe. The third source, ozone, performs the important role of absorbing ultraviolet radiation in the stratosphere, but in the troposphere it harms human health by causing respiratory infections, lung damage, and reduces agricultural crop yields by reducing plants' ability to absorb CO₂. Present yield losses are estimated at 7-12% for wheat, 6-16% for soybeans, 3-4% for rice, and 3-5% for corn. Precursor gases including carbon monoxide, nitrogen oxides, volatile organic compounds, and methane create tropospheric ozone that can persist for up to a few weeks. Since methane accounts for two-thirds of increased tropospheric ozone, reductions in methane emissions will lead to a subsequent reduction in tropospheric ozone. That reduction has the potential to avoid the annual loss of over 30 million tons of crops and contribute to increased global food security.

In addition to the three primary sources, HFCs are key to the discussion of SLCP reduction both because of their extreme strength and impact to the greenhouse effect (relative to CO₂) and because emissions are predicted to greatly increase in the future. The success of the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer in phasing out ozone-depleting chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs) and hydrochlorofluorocarbons (HCFCs) has caused the increased use of HFCs, which are predicted to further increase to 20% of climate pollution by 2050. HFCs are used predominately by developed countries as a replacement for ozone depleting compounds in refrigeration, air conditioning, fire suppression, and other aerosols. HFC-134a is the most commonly used HFC and is 1,430 times stronger than CO₂ in affecting global warming. Parties to the Montreal Protocol have recently debated the possibility of using the Protocol to reduce HFCs. Developed countries argue for the inclusion of HFCs into the Protocol since the use of HFCs resulted from the Protocol. Developing countries counter this because HFCs are a greenhouse gas that pose no danger to the ozone, and suggest that HFCs should be addressed by existing climate change mechanisms like the *United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)*.

Reducing CO₂ emissions is often viewed as economically harmful because it involves heavy industries like manufacturing and power generation. Mitigation of SLCPs, however, is more politically acceptable because it

involves scaling-up targeted efforts in light industries like transportation and waste management. Change in these industries is also more acceptable because mitigation often involves increasing efficiencies and has short-term, demonstrable benefits to human health. Furthermore, while long-term action on climate change still requires international agreement on CO₂ reductions, addressing SLCPs may garner greater support as it has the potential to decrease global warming by 0.5°C by 2050; with Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change predictions of a 1.4-3.0°C increase by 2050, the impact of SLCP reductions is significant. Recognizing the near-immediate benefits of SLCP to climate change, human health, and food security, the UNEP, in conjunction with Bangladesh, Canada, Ghana, Mexico, Sweden, and the United States, formed the Climate and Clean Air Coalition to Reduce Short Lived Climate Pollutants (CCAC). While recognizing that action on SLCPs must supplement, not replace, *UNFCCC* action on CO₂, the CCAC focuses on reducing methane, black carbon, and HFC emissions by: 1) raising awareness on SLCP impacts and mitigation strategies, 2) creating and strengthening national and regional actions to reduce emissions, 3) promoting best practices and successful strategies, and 4) improving scientific understanding on SLCPs and mitigation techniques.

At its first meeting in 2012, the CCAC agreed on five initiatives for rapid implementation. The first initiative, Reducing Black Carbon Emissions from Heavy Duty Diesel Vehicles and Engines, aims to reduce black carbon through the adoption of clean fuel and vehicle regulations. The second initiative, Mitigating Black Carbon and Other Pollutants from Brick Production, involves research and analysis of current brick production methods (primarily in Asia) and development of policies and financial incentives to modernize the region's industry. Similarly, the Mitigating SLCPs from the Municipal Solid Waste Sector initiative works to reduce black carbon and methane production by transitioning to sustainable landfills. The fourth initiative, Promoting HFC Alternative Technology and Standards, seeks to transition from HFCs to low or zero-impact alternatives in the long-term. The last initiative, Accelerating Methane and Black Carbon Reductions from Oil and Natural Gas Production, highlights the cost-effectiveness of preventing leaked and vented methane.

In addition to the CCAC, the UNEP is involved in multiple actions to reduce SLCPs including The Atmospheric Brown Cloud Project, The Partnership for Clean Fuels and Vehicles, Project Surya, the Global Atmospheric Pollution Forum, the Global Methane Initiative, The Global Alliance for Clean Cookstoves, and the Ozone2Climate Global Roadshow. Through each partnership and initiative, the UNEP highlights the importance of globalizing small-scale actions. Although still a fledgling coalition, the UNEP's CCAC has now grown to 25 countries and the European Union. As the UNEP continues to address SLCPs, the focus continues to remain on action-oriented approaches. This approach must ultimately compliment and supplement international actions to reduce CO₂ emissions but it can also learn from the hazards of sweeping international agreements. For over two decades parties to the *UNFCCC* have negotiated CO₂ emissions reductions with only limited international agreement while atmospheric concentrations continue to rise. Against this backdrop, the UNEP continues to support community level actions that can be scaled-up to nationwide efforts and translated to other parts of the globe. To accelerate this effort, and better address SLCP mitigation, the UNEP must continually find more efficient ways to translate successes in one community or state to others, find more innovative and cost-effective sustainable technologies, and gain the financial support to globalize those actions.

While the science behind SLCPs is largely agreed upon and possible measures to reduce emissions are identified, the UNEP's work in improving partnerships to address the issue faces significant hurdles. At this time, the CCAC's membership only includes 25 countries and the European Union. Likewise, the UNEP is involved in nearly a dozen organizations that address specific aspects of SLCP emissions with limited membership. Moving forward, the UNEP must work to increase country involvement in the discussion of SLCP emissions reductions and strengthen partnerships between organizations in order to quickly achieve emissions reductions on a global scale.

Annotated Bibliography

History of the United Nations Environment Programme

Johnson, S. (2012). *UNEP - The First 40 years*. Retrieved April 27, 2013, from: <http://www.unep.org/pdf/40thbook.pdf>.

Mr. Johnson gives a detailed look into the formation and the first formative years of the UNEP. This book illustrates the difficulties and controversies in establishing this UN body, as well as the difficult first session due to debate on determining structure and attendance. Additionally, Mr. Johnson traces the

transformation and growing importance of the UNEP into the active and empowered UN body that it is today.

United Nations Environment Programme. (2012). *2012 Annual Report*. Retrieved April 27, 2013, from: http://www.unep.org/gc/gc27/docs/UNEP_ANNUAL_REPORT_2012.pdf.

The 2012 Annual Report also highlights and features numerous projects conducted by the UNEP. The highlights are divided into the six areas of interest, all detailing the successes and challenges presenting each project. The annual report also gives details of upcoming and continuing initiatives for the UNEP, partnering non-governmental, and UN bodies. Also contained in this document is the financial and organizational structure for the upcoming year.

United Nations Environment Programme. (2013). *Governance Structure*. Retrieved May 15, 2013, from: <http://www.unep.org/sgb/GovernanceStruc.asp>.

This Web site gives the updated structure in which the UNEP will be governed and how it will operate starting in 2014. This governing structure was adopted as a result of the directed order from the GA in Resolutions 67/213 and 67/251. Overhauling the UNEP governing structure allows for universal membership and better communication from governments to various parts of the UNEP. The adopted structure also allows for effective and responsive leadership from the UNEP when it takes on its role as Secretariat for the 10 Year Framework. Reviewing the governing system of the UNEP will allow delegates to not only understand how the six mandated issues are addressed, but also how the UNEP is able to organize and coordinate projects amongst various UN agencies and non-governmental organizations.

United Nations Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and forest Degradation Programme Website. (2013). *About the UN-REDD Programme*. Retrieved June 15, 2013, from: <http://www.un-redd.org/AboutUN-REDDProgramme/tabid/102613/Default.aspx>.

This program works in tandem with the goals of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and its subsequent documents. The UNFCCC is currently the main source of coordination and promotion of programs and initiatives that address climate change and adaptation to climate change. The UNEP plays a crucial role when dealing with climate change, and the United Nations Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation initiative is a clear example of the UNEP activities in this area.

I. Combating the Illicit Trade of Animals and Animal Products

Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora. (1979). *Text of the Convention*. Retrieved May 22, 2013, from: <http://www.cites.org/eng/disc/E-Text.pdf>.

The Convention stands as the foundation for international cooperation in combating the illicit trade of animals and animal products. Although often criticized, delegates should understand how the Convention operates to make informed decisions on how to better combat the illicit trade. Whether offering resolutions to strengthen the current Convention or creating proposals for alternative measures, a solid understanding of existing measures is essential for delegates.

Inter Press Service News Agency. (2013, April 29). *U.N. Recognizes Wildlife Trafficking as "Serious Crime"*. Retrieved May 21, 2013, from: <http://www.ipsnews.net/2013/04/u-n-recognises-wildlife-trafficking-as-serious-crime>.

While it is not a direct action of the UNEP, this decision signals broader recognition by the UN of the seriousness of the illicit wildlife trade. One criticism of current international approaches is that the penalty for individuals involved in the illicit wildlife trade is not harsh enough to deter them in the face of such a lucrative black market. Broader acceptance of wildlife trafficking as an international crime could change both the level of punishment and the likelihood of prosecution by states and international bodies.

United Nations Environment Programme. (2013). *Report of UNEP*. Retrieved June 20, 2013, from: <http://www.cites.org/eng/cop/16/doc/E-CoP16-07.pdf>.

As part of its partnership with the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), the UNEP provides a report of its actions at the triennial CITES Conference of Parties (COP). This report, presented to the 16th COP in March 2013, highlights current actions that the UNEP

takes to address the illicit wildlife trade. Delegates should familiarize themselves with current actions to better address how those actions can be strengthened and also to identify gaps in the current approach that do not properly address the changing nature of the trade.

United Nations Environment Programme News Centre. (2013, May 6). *China's Top Actress Urges Greater Effort to End Illegal Ivory Trade on Visit to Kenya*. Retrieved May 22, 2013, from:

<http://www.unep.org/newscentre/default.aspx?DocumentID=2716&ArticleID=9490>.

Although the illicit trade of animals and animal products is not a new phenomenon, managing demand is a relatively new approach in combating the illicit trade. This news article highlights small measures that the UNEP is working on to educate consumers on the ecological costs of purchasing products from threatened and endangered species. In considering ways to better combat the illicit trade, delegates should consider other ways that the UNEP can address the demand for these products.

World Wildlife Foundation. (2013). *UN Chief Takes Poaching Concerns to Security Council*. Retrieved June 27, 2013, from: <http://wwf.panda.org/?208833/UN-chief-takes-poaching-concerns-to-Security-Council>.

The increasing involvement of criminal organizations in the illicit animal trade poses serious concerns both for the scope of animal poaching and the safety of conservationists and park rangers protecting the animals. In addition to that criminal aspect, the illicit animal trade also threatens peace and security by financing criminal, terrorist, and other armed groups. In considering how to gain broader support for measures that reduce the illicit animal trade, delegates should question how connecting issues of peace and security with environmental concerns can gain broadened international support for combating the illicit animal trade.

II. Achieving Sustainable Energy for All

Cogeneration for Africa. (2013). *Project Brief - Cogeneration for Africa Project*. Retrieved April 27, 2013, from: http://www.afrepren.org/cogen/about_cogen.html.

The UNEP and African Development Bank (AfDB) co-implemented the Cogeneration for Africa initiative. This Web site explains what the Cogeneration for Africa Project is and the roles the UNEP, the AfDB, and the AFREPREN/FWD play in the implementation of the initiative. This Web site also highlights the methods in which energy output is monitored, how investments are tracked, and how benchmarks are met. The involvement of the UNEP in this short-term initiative is one of the reasons why the UNEP has become an integral part of development of the Sustainable Energy for All monitoring systems. Delegates should consider this project as an example of how collaboration can occur on promoting sustainable energy for all.

SE4ALL Global Framework Steering Group. (2012). *A Digest of Comments Submitted During the Consultation on the SE4ALL Global Tracking Framework Carried Out Over the Period 5th - 30th November 2012 and a Summary of Response of the Author*. Retrieved April 26, 2013, from: <http://www.sustainableenergyforall.org/images/global-tracking-framework.pdf>.

This report by the SE4ALL Global Framework Steering Group is a compilation of feedback from various UN bodies, NGOs, and private sector participants within the year of Sustainable Energy for All. The feedback examines each of the goals for their effectiveness and purpose to aid countries toward the 2030 deadline. Also, the feedback highlights the challenges within the monitoring and tracking systems in place, and voices concern for the lack of enforcement for countries refusing to participate or reveal their policy initiatives.

Sustainable Energy for All. (2012). *Action and Commitments: Country Level Actions*. Retrieved June 14, 2013, from: <http://www.sustainableenergyforall.org/actions-commitments/country-level-actions>.

This Web site provides a regional break down of the UN Member States that have committed themselves to meeting the three goals of the Sustainable Energy for All initiative by the 2030 deadline. By committing to the Sustainable Energy for All initiative, these Member States will have easier access to private sector investment, regional support, and assistance from developed Member States. Additionally, under the Action and Commitment section, there are several reports from various Member States that highlight their progress towards sustainable development, as well as reports from industries pertaining to investment outcomes.

Sustainable Energy for All. (2013). *Chapter 1: The Se4all Global Tracking Framework*. Retrieved June 16, 2013, from: http://www.sustainableenergyforall.org/images/Global_Tracking/6-gtf_ch1.pdf.

As of May 28, 2013, the model for the Global Tracking System was released. This section provides the layout and guidelines for the monitoring system. The World Energy Model (WEM) used by the International Energy Agency is described in great detail within this chapter. The WEM is the system that the Sustainable Energy For All Global Tracking System will mirror. The Global Tracking System has yet to be implemented because the baseline data from 2010 through 2012 is still being collected. This is just a sample for the committed Member States, UN agencies attached to the Sustainable Energy for All, and private sector investors to review before instituting the Global Tracking System.

Sustainable Energy for All. (2013). *Chapter 5: Conclusions*. Retrieved June 16, 2013, from:

http://www.sustainableenergyforall.org/images/Global_Tracking/10-gtf_ch5.pdf.

This conclusion section provides justification as to why a Global Tracking System is needed and its benefits. In the test model of the three goals, the Global Tracking System shows how they are interrelated and how progress in one goal benefits the other two. An example of this is demonstrated by China and India's sustainable energy development. Each country's projects have had high impact and lead to a fast rate of energy development. Their success has been supported by a high-level of investment and accessibility. However, since each country is so large and highly populated in comparison to other countries, the progress of other countries appears disproportionately slow.

United Nations Development Programme. (2013). *Equator Initiative, Sustainable Energy for All: Challenges and Adaptation in Bangladesh*. Retrieved June 14, 2013, from:

http://www.equatorinitiative.org/index.php?option=com_content&id=677&Itemid=796.

The physical obstacles to sustainable energy development are explained on this Web site.. However, the site also details potential solutions to these physical barriers that work with the natural landscape, instead of using dams and levees that could cause more environmental damage. The page also explains how the project detailed on Bangladesh is problematic to measure and quantify. Furthermore, this explains how other creative solutions that remove themselves from a national or international grid but promote sustainability, could cause future problems of misrepresentation of data on Member States. As such, this case study will help delegates to understand how innovative sustainable energy projects might overcome physical obstacles and would be over looked by a global monitoring system.

United Nations General Assembly. (2011). *Resolution 65/151: International Year of Sustainable Energy for All*.

Retrieved April 25, 2013, from: http://www.un.org/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/RES/65/151.

This UN GA resolution is the framework for the year of Sustainable Energy for All, which is based upon several treaties that reflect environmental and development initiatives. Within this resolution, the connection between sustainable energy and the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals is created. As a result, this resolution begins to address issues of sustainable energy in a post-2015 world, yet fails to recall the already proposed Sustainable Development Goals. Also the monitoring and organization of the year's progress is left to related UN agencies and the UN Energy initiative, which includes the UNEP.

III. Improving Partnerships to Address Short-lived Climate Pollutants

Climate and Clean Air Coalition to Reduce Short-Lived Climate Pollutants. (2012). *Initiatives*. Retrieved May 20, 2013, from: <http://www.unep.org/ccac/Portals/24183/PartnersArea/pdf/CCAC%20FACT%20SHEET-INITIATIVES-EN-HR.pdf>.

The Climate and Clean Air Coalition is the primary tool of the UNEP engagement in addressing short-lived climate pollutants (SLCPs). As only a fledgling organization, delegates should analyze the Coalition's newly formed initiatives for possible gaps in addressing the broader issue of SLCPs. Additionally, based on this initiative, delegates can begin to research other existing international, regional, and state initiatives for areas where synergies could be developed to reach the objective of reducing SLCPs faster.

Environment News Service. (2013, February 5) *Asian Countries to Reduce Short-lived Climate Pollutants*. Retrieved June 27, 2013, from: <http://ens-newswire.com/2013/02/05/asian-countries-to-reduce-short-lived-climate-pollutants/>.

This news article highlights a key challenge to reducing short-lived climate pollutants emissions: gaining broader country support and involvement. Recognizing the need to increase the Climate and Clean Air Coalition's (CCAC) membership, the UNEP and the CCAC members Bangladesh and Japan used this meeting to gain support for the CCAC's initiatives to reduce methane emissions from natural gas production. Delegates should use this example to consider how existing frameworks and organizations can gain broader international involvement.

Institute for Governance & Sustainable Development. (2013). *Primer on Short-Lived Climate Pollutants*. Retrieved May 20, 2013, from: <http://igsd.org/documents/PrimeronShort-LivedClimatePollutantsFeb192013.pdf>.

This document is essential for delegates to gain a basic understanding of the topic. The Primer explains what the primary short-lived climate pollutants are, their predominate sources, and the impacts of each on global warming, human health, and food security. The Primer also warns of estimated trends in future emissions for delegates to better understand what inaction will lead to.

World Resources Institute. (2013, June 10). *STATEMENT: U.S.-China Agreement on HFCs a "Breakthrough" on Climate Change*. Retrieved June 27, 2013, from: <http://www.wri.org/press/2013/06/statement-us-china-agreement-hfcs-breakthrough-climate-change>.

In 2009, the United States, Mexico, and Canada first proposed using the Montreal Convention to reduce the production and consumption of hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs). This agreement by the United States and China again signals the insistence by some countries to address HFCs through the existing Montreal Convention. The debate over whether HFCs should be addressed by the Montreal Convention or existing climate change conventions demonstrates to delegates the need to increase partnerships not only between countries, but also between methods to reduce short-lived climate pollutants emissions and carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions.

Worldwatch Institute. (2009). *Climate Change Reference Guide*. Retrieved May 20, 2013, from: <http://www.worldwatch.org/files/pdf/CCRG.pdf>.

Addressing short-lived climate pollutants (SLCPs) cannot be viewed entirely as a standalone issue, it must be considered in the broader context of climate change. While measures can focus on methods to reduce SLCPs, these approaches should always seek to complement measures to reduce carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions. Reducing SLCPs will mitigate global warming in the short-term, but cannot be used to delay action on CO₂. Delegates should look to this source for a general understanding of climate change mitigation to better understand how proposed actions to reduce SLCPs can fit into the broader work of reducing greenhouse gas emissions.